

**Burns, Vanessa**

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**From:** Michael Donovan [mickeyd942@sbcglobal.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 01, 2011 9:29 AM  
**To:** AppropriationTestimony  
**Cc:** Jill Cohen; Jane Davis-Bunt; Kim Bragoli; Nneka Maiurro; Tom Fanning  
**Subject:** Prepared Testimony for the Appropriation Committee to be delivered on 3/2/11

Members of the Appropriation Committee: My name is Michael Donovan, 28 Quaker Ridge Rd., Bethel. I have been before you in the past and come before again today to once again plead for the care and support for the most vulnerable citizens of our state. The Department of Developmental Services--which oversees the services provided to our developmentally disabled population--is again on the brink of shrinking its budget to help the state eliminate its massive debt. While I am relieved to see that Governor Malloy in his proposed budget has called for no specific funding cuts for the private providers, there are no cost-of-living increases proposed either. The Governor's budget message calls for "shared sacrifice" from everyone. I am sure that you are all well aware that community provider funding has been grossly inadequate for many years. The community providers have been making sacrifices for many many years as the cost of providing vital services have risen dramatically while the funding level has decreased! What we need immediately is a increased level of funding for the community providers before we see a partial, if not total, collapse of the community provider system.

3/1/2011